

LIMEHURST
Rural District Council.

Medical Officer's
Report, 1915.



ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE :
GREEN, SON & MILLS, PRINTERS, MINERVA WORKS.

Report.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Limehurst Rural District Council.

STRATHDENE,
TAUNTON ROAD,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE,
March, 1916.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I have pleasure in submitting my Ninth Annual Report, that for the year 1915, including therein an epitome of the work done by the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. H. Turner), and in the compilation of the same have followed as nearly as possible the recommendations issued by the Local Government Board, and have taken the population given by the Registrar General as a basis for all calculations.

The Natural and Social Conditions, Water Supply, Drainage and Sewerage of the District, is similar to that mentioned in my last Report, and although slight improvement may have occurred in the latter instance and in the closet accommodation, the instructions of the Local Government Board have militated against the issue of notices to improve premises, except in very urgent cases.

The Area and Population of the several Parishes are as follows :—

Parish	Area Acres	Estimated Civil	
		Population, Census, 1911	Population, 1915
Alt	1114	1032	1012
Bardsley	883	2215	2165
Hartshead	1019	700	580
Littlemoss	704	556	540
Waterloo	341	3966	3900
Woodhouses	628	830	810
Totals	4689	9299	9007

Population in 1901 census	10338
1911 do.	10567
	(including Crossbank 1268)
Estimated Civil Population, Registrar,	
General, 1915:—	9007
	(excluding Crossbank)

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.—During the twelve months ended December 31st last, the following work has been done in the Nightsoil Department:—

In the parish of Bardsley 367 privies, 166 ashpits, 2,769 pails, 661 dry ashpits, 737 ash cans and 20 cesspools have been emptied at a cost of £146 3s. 2d., and a Special Tip at a cost of £15 11s. 1d., not including rent.

In the parish of Littlemoss 231 privies, 120 ashpits, 442 pails, 39 dry ashpits, 15 ash cans and 13 cesspools at a cost of £35 2s. 2d.

In the parish of Waterloo 1135 privies, 604 ashpits, 3118 pails, 787 dry ashpits, 1385 ash cans and 25 cesspools at a cost of £224 4s. 3d.

In the parish of Woodhouses 272 privies, 122 ashpits, 2080 pails, 194 dry ashpits, 164 ash cans and 73 cesspools at a cost of £65 2s. 9d.

It is urgently needed that places be found to deposit or to utilize on farms, &c., the contents of pail closets from the above mentioned parishes, especially in the parishes of Bardsley and Waterloo.

An Abstract of work done by the Sanitary Inspector during the year is appended to this report.

There are no Underground Bakehouses, Cellar Dwellings, or Offensive Trades carried on in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, four in number, have been regularly inspected and surprise visits made by myself and Sanitary Inspector. All are kept clean, well supplied with water, well drained, and are regularly whitewashed.

FARMS, COWSHEDS, &c —Improvements are still being made among the farms (96) in the district. One new farmhouse and one new shippon, &c , have been erected during the year.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.—Three were taken during the year but no proceedings were found necessary.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION is fairly adequate in the district. One case of overcrowding being notified, but after notice the nuisance was abated.

Under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, the following has been done :—

No.	Parish	Houses	Closets	Drainage	Light	Yards	Ashes	Rooms
1	Bardsley	1	good	good	good	good	good	good
2	Do.	6	do.	do.	do.	dirty	do.	do.
3	Waterloo	6	insufficient	do.	do.	open	bad	do.
4	Do.	2	good	do.	do.	covered with sheds	good	do.
5	Do.	27	do.	do.	do.	filthy with ashes, &c.	not used	do.

In No. 1 case the cellar was found to be flooded, and with the exception of No. 3, all complaints were attended to with little delay.

SCHOOLS.—The Elementary Schools in the District are clean, satisfactory and well supplied with towns water.

At the end of January last my attention was called to the Infants' School, Bardsley, owing to the percentage of attendances falling low through Mumps, Measles and Chicken-pox. I visited the School at once and again in February, but as the attendances were improving materially I did not advise any action being taken.

FOODS AND DRUGS.—The administration of the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the Lancashire County Council as far as regards Milk, &c.

THE LIGHTING ACT is in force in the parishes of Bardsley, Littlemoss and Waterloo, and is administered by the several Parish Councils.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK. A list of inspections made by the Officers of the Council is appended.

Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901,
in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories4	32	0	0
Workshops.....18	30	0	0
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	0	0	0
Total	62	0	0

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

	NUMBER
Medlock Vale Print Works.....	1
Thornlea Brook Bleach and Dye Works	1
Park Bridge Iron Works.....	1
A. Lees & Sons, Roller Works	1
A. L. Dobb & Sons ,,	1
Kerfoot & Co., Sweets Works	1
J. W. Holland, Wheelwright's Shop	1
J. Taylor, Rope Walk	1
C. Barlow, Tailor.....	1
Chamber Colliery, Bardsley Pit.....	1
Breweries	2
Bardsley Wadding Works	1
J. Fletcher, Machine Shop.....	1
Stuart Bros. Ltd., Cloth Cleaning Works	1
— Cottrell, Quarry	1
— Kenworthy ,,	1
— Jackson, Brickworks.....	1

Total Number of Workshops on Register... 18

OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS	NUMBER
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) : -	0
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Reports sent to H.M. Inspector	0
Other Complaints remedied	3
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	0
In use at the end of the year.....	0

HOSPITAL.—The only hospital in the District is the Hartshead hospital, under the Joint Authority, for the treatment of Smallpox patients. No cases from this District admitted during 1915.

There is no provision for treating other acute infectious diseases or tuberculosis.

Arrangements have, however, been made with the Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation for the disinfection of “contacts” and clothing at their new disinfecting station.

ADOPTED ACTS.—(1904) Power to join in the formation of a Joint Smallpox hospital

(1907) Powers of Section 45 Public Health Acts, 1875, for the provision of tips.

(1909) Powers of Section 49 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890, as far as regards special expenses.

(1911) Powers under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act) 1907, except parts 7, 8 and 9.

Powers under part 3 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890, as far as it applies to Rural Districts in operation from June 1st, 1911.

Powers under Section 154 of the Public Health Acts, 1875.

Confirmation of powers under Section 155, 157 and 160 of the Act of 1875.

Powers under Section 3 of the Public Health (Building in Streets) Act, 1888.

In the year 1900 the Council adopted the Model Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS	Males		Females		Total	Rate per 1000 of civil population
	Legiti- mate	Illegiti- mate	Legiti- mate	Illegiti- mate		
March Quarter	26	0	25	0	51	22·64
June „	24	0	30	0	54	23·98
September	31	0	26	0	57	25·31
December	20	0	23	1	44	19·54
Transferable Births ..	0	2	0	0	2	
Totals.....	101	2	104	1	208	23·09

These numbers show a decrease in the Births registered in the previous year of 41. The number of Births of Illegitimate children registered being 3. The Birth Rate on the estimated population of 9370 in 1914 would be 22.19.

Birth Rate for the last six years being as follows :—

1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
24.18	22.33	23.77	24.93	26.56	23.09

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The proportion of deaths of children under one year, per 1000 births registered, is equal to 139.42. Eight deaths being of children under one month and 21 deaths of children between one month and twelve months of age. The particulars and causes of death being shown in Table IV appended. Rate per 1000 civil population, 2.31. It will be seen on reference to Table IV that 5 deaths occurred from Respiratory Diseases and 3 from Premature Birth.

Registered deaths of children from one to five years, 20. Rate per 1000, civil population, 2.2; of these, 1 occurred from Scarlet Fever and 10 from Respiratory Diseases.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.....	1
Diarrhœa	1
	<hr/>
	3

The deaths from Zymotic Diseases occurred in the several parishes as follows :—Scarlet Fever : Bardsley 1. Diphtheria : Bardsley 1. Diarrhœa : Waterloo 1.

DEATHS	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1000 of civil population
March Quarter	24	.. 26	.. 50	.. 22.20
June „	11	.. 12	.. 23	.. 10.21
September „	17	.. 18	.. 35	.. 15.54
December „	9	.. 20	.. 29	.. 12.87
Totals.....	61	76	137	15.20
INWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS				
March Quarter	5	.. 4	.. 9	
June „	2	.. 4	.. 6	
September „	2	.. 3	.. 5	
December „	4	.. 1	.. 5	
Totals	74	88	162	17.98
OUTWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS				
	0	.. 1	.. 1	
Nett Totals.....	74	87	161	17.87

The above list shows 25 inward transferable deaths, and 1 outward transferable death.

Death Rate for the last six years :—

1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
12·54	15·80	14·71	14·67	15·90	17·87

Deaths in the several parishes occurred as follows :—

	Alt	Bardsley	Harts-head	Little-moss	Waterloo	Wood-houses
Estimated civil population	1012	2165	580	540	3900	810
Deaths	10	37	3	5	73	9
Transferable Inward	1	8	1	1	13	1
Totals	11	45	4	6	86	10
Transferable Outward	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nett Totals.....	11	44	4	6	86	10
Rate per 1000 civil popula'n	10·87	20·32	6·89	11·11	22·05	12·34

TUBERCULOSIS.—9 deaths (1 transferred). All Pulmonary.

Four of these deaths occurred in Waterloo, three in Bardsley and one in Woodhouses; the transferred death belonging to Waterloo. Rate per 1000 civil population 0·888.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES (comprising Bronchitis and Pneumonia)—33 deaths. Rate per 1000 civil population 3·66.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Smallpox	0
Cholera	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2
Erysipelas.....	3
Scarlet Fever	26
Typhus Fever	0
Enteric Fever	2
Continued Fever	0
Puerperal Fever	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	9
Other Tuberculosis	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1

Cases reported ... 50

The several Parishes in which the foregoing occurred are specified in Table II.

On the 9th April information was received from Dr. Niven, M.O.H. of Manchester, of a case of Enteric Fever in that City alleged to be caused by the Milk Supply from a Farm in your district. Exhaustive inquiries were by myself, Mr. Eginton, Chief Sanitary Inspector for the County and also your own Sanitary Inspector, but were unable to trace the source of the disease to this Farm.

Upon April 9th information was also received from Dr. Wilkinson, M.O.H. of Oldham, of a serious epidemic of Scarlet Fever in that Borough and he stated that most of the people affected obtained Milk from a Farm in this District where a fatal case of Scarlet Fever had occurred. The milk supply from the farm into the Borough of Oldham was stopped and the farm and premises were thoroughly inspected by the County M.O.H., myself and the Inspectors.

The recommendations of the County M.O.H. and myself of certain alterations at the farm were carried out, but as no cases of Scarlet Fever were caused among the customers for milk in this district I do not think the milk supply was the occasion of the outbreak in Oldham.

G. F. BOWMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE WORK DONE

during the twelve months ended December 31st, 1915, as taken from the Reports of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. H. Turner.

Number of nuisances reported.....	122
Do. notices served.....	19
Do. nuisances remedied without notices .	68
Do. sewers opened and cleaned out	2
Do. cases of overcrowding (repeated).....	1
Do. Factory Inspectors' Reports attended to	3
Do. dangerous buildings	1
Do. houses unfit (altered at once)	1
Do. open sewers cleaned out	1

The above cases include :—

Defective yards	10
Defective closets	10
Defective slopstone waste pipes	17
Flooded cellars	4
Street flooded (surface).....	1
Tippler closets opened	18
Farms	5
School drains	1

Sewers relaid, 2 ; cesspools built, 1.

Plans approved for the following :—New roads, 1 ; pail closets, 6 ; tippler closets and ashpits, 3 ; houses, 1 ; farm shippon, 1 ; additions to houses, 3 ; alterations to mills, 2 ; wooden shed, 1 ; telegraph poles, 1 ; alterations to slaughter-houses, 2 ; additions to schools, 1.

Instructions have militated against the further progress of many needed sanitary improvements, especially where considerable structural alterations will be compulsory. But where absolutely necessary, few nuisances have failed to receive due attention.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1915 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT		
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Non- residents Registered in the District	Residents not Registered in the District	Under 1 Year	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	At all Ages
1910	.. 11000	266	.. 24.18	.. 138	.. 12.54	0	.. 0	.. 29	.. 109	.. 138 .. 12.54
1911	.. 10567	236	.. 22.33	.. 152	.. 14.38	2	.. 17	.. 37	.. 152.5	.. 167 .. 15.80
1912	.. 10600	254	.. 23.96	.. 132	.. 12.45	3	.. 27	.. 20	.. 73.34	.. 156 .. 14.71
1913	.. 10630	265	.. 24.92	.. 139	.. 13.07	5	.. 17	.. 28	.. 106.4	.. 151 .. 15.05
1914	.. 9370	249	.. 26.56	.. 134	.. 14.29	5	.. 20	.. 34	.. 136.54	.. 149 .. 15.90
1915	9007	206	23.09	137	15.20	1	25	29	139.42	161 17.87
1914	Est. 9370	206	22.19 for Birth Rate only.							

Area of District in Acres..... 4,689. Total Population at All Ages.. 9,299 at Census of 1911.
Total families or separate occupiers 2,214.

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1915.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Cases notified in whole district							Total cases notified in each locality							
	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 15 "	15 to 25 "	25 to 45 "	45 to 65 "	65 and upwards	Alt	Bardsley	Hartshead	Littlemoss	Waterloo	Woodhouses	Total cases to Hospital
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Scarlet Fever	26	0	5	17	2	2	0	0	3	10	1	1	10	1	2
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	9	0	0	1	3	2	2	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	0
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	5	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	50	1	6	22	9	6	4	2	3	22	1	2	20	2	2

Isolation Hospital:—To Ashton-under-Lyne Hospital 2 Scarlet Fever.

